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PATENT
1805-4001

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

APPLICANT: Yihong QI et al. GROUP ART UNIT: 2817
FILED: March 10, 2004 EXAMINER: Dean TAKAOKA
SERIAL NO.: 10/797,492 CONFIRMATION: 3992
FOR: BOW TIE COUPLER

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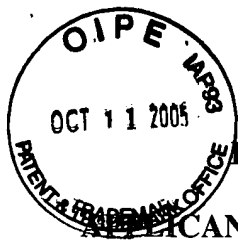
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Date: October 8, 2005

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RESPONSE

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

This paper is filed in response to the Office Action mailed July 8, 2005.

Claims 1-24 are pending in this application. Claims 1, 17 and 22 are independent.

On page 10 of the Office Action, claims 7, 10 and 12 were indicated as being allowable if rewritten in independent form.

On page 2 of the Office Action, claims 1, 5, 8, 9, 11, 13, 14, 16, 17 and 21 were rejected under 35 USC 102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,281,843 (Evtioushkine).

Claim 1 is directed to a coupler comprising a first element having a rectangular portion and a tapered portion with a nose, a second element having a rectangular portion and a tapered portion with a nose, a third element disposed between the nose of the first element and the nose of the second element, and a matching network for electrically connecting the first element, the second element and the third element.

Because of the electrical connection accomplished by the matching network, the coupler of claim 1 achieves similar stable characteristics over a wide bandwidth, enabling, *inter alia*, faster and cheaper testing of devices intended to operate in several bandwidths.